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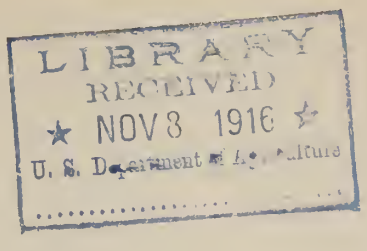

WEEKLY STATION REPORTS

OF THE OFFICE OF

DRY LAND AGRICULTURE INVESTIGATIONS

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

NOVEMBER 4, 1916.

Amarillo.

Ordinary fair fall weather has been the bill this week and work on the station has progressed in good shape. The row crop harvesting was practically completed and fall tillage and seeding on the D. L. A. project was done after a couple of weeks delay due to rains and wet soil. The final round of soil sampling is now in progress. We are having some trouble with our oven on account of water in the gasoline.

Because of the splendid condition of the soil with reference to moisture this fall a large acreage is being put into wheat over the Panhandle and the crop already up is looking fine. The range also is in fine condition for this time of the year.

Max. temp. for week 78 on the 22nd.; minimum 32 on the 25th. Hourly wind 6.8 miles. Precipitation .24 inch.

Ardmore, Report for week ending October 21.

Maximum temperature for the week 80; minimum 17. Precipitation .39 inch; .27 inch of the total precipitation was in the form of snow. The total precipitation for the month of October to the present date has been .85 of an inch. The total precipitation for the month of September was only .02 inch. Winter wheat and winter rye seeded early in September has not emerged except where seeded on summer fallow land. The first killing frost was September 12th; practically a month earlier than last year.

Corn has dried out very slowly and corn husking has not been completed. The plats so far husked have averaged about 32 bushels per acre. None of the sorghums have been weighed up with the exception of some fields of Dakota Amber sorgo which has been threshed. The seed of this variety is exceptionally good and about 10,000 pounds will be threshed out for distribution. The yield has been from 21 to 31 bushels per Acre.

Colby.

The fore part of the week was cold, cloudy, snowy, and rainy. The last few days have been warm and clear. Almost a quarter of an inch of moisture fell in the form of sleet, snow, and rain which added to the .34 inch of last week is sprouting the wheat. The moisture has penetrated to a depth of six inches in most places.

Plats B and E of M.C.Milo and Corn were plowed Thursday as were also 3 B and M. C. Kafir B. In places the moisture was down to eight inches, but in most places dry ground was turned up. The annual fall farmers institute will be held in Colby November first and second.

Max. temp. 74; min. 28. Ave. wind vel. (2') 6.9 miles; (8') 9.8 miles. Evaporation .614". Precipitation .20 inch.

Archer.

During the past week, the maximum temperature was 68 which occurred on the 27th, with a minimum of 15 on the 24th, and a total precipitation (snow) of .39 inches on the 22nd and 23rd.

All of the corn except that on a few plats of rate and date of seeding has been husked. The corn is quite green, but has reached a greater degree of maturity than is usually attained at this station.

The new water tank has just been finished and the installation of the water system will soon be completed.

Scottsbluff.

Heavy snow accompanied by wind prevailed during the night of the 22nd. It continued the following day, making a total of .38". Clear, warm weather set in Thursday and field work was possible the remainder of the week. The unusual stormy weather is causing the farmers some worry as only a small per cent of the 28000 acres of beets has been harvested.

Corn was hauled in on the 28th and the fodder will be weighed up next week. The warm weather caused the remaining winter wheat and rye plats to emerge. The soil is in good condition as a total precipitation of 1.00" has fallen since the 9th, mostly in the form of snow.

Note:

A general memorandum from the Chief Clerk of the Bureau of Plant Industry, has been issued to all offices, advising that in the future it will be necessary when requesting appointments of employes in the Department to state whether or not such employes have previously served in the Department. All field men of this office are therefore requested to observe this regulation when wiring or writing requests for appointments of laborers on their respective stations.

Huntley.

During the week part of the corn on the rotations was weighed up for total weights. The first installment of brood sows purchased by the Bureau of Animal Industry for the live-stock work here arrived Friday from Mitchell, Neb. This lot consists of five pure breed Duroc-Jersey gilts of excellent type and quality.

The weather this week has been generally warm and very humid. All winter grains are making a vigorous growth as is fall seeded sweet clover and brome grass.

Maximum temperature 68; minimum 35. Precipitation .13".

Mandan.

The balance of the nursery stock has been dug and heeled in.

Corn husking will be completed in another day.

A large quantity and variety of seed of native and other fruits has been planted in seed beds in the field. These will be mulched to prevent soil blowing and drying out of the soil.

Soil moisture determinations have been made in the hardiness experiment blocks and are at present being taken in the shelterbelt variety blocks and combination plantings.

Twenty-five of the two year old steers that have been used during the summer on the grazing experiment were shipped out on the twenty-eighth. Mr. Sweet accompanied shipment to market. The twenty-five yearling steers will be wintered on the station and used for next season's grazing.

Maximum temperature 60; minimum 33. Precipitation .02".

Sheridan.

This has been a wet week, snow fell all the night of the 22, and several small flurries of snow since. Last night rain fell all night, and as a consequence breaking has been going ahead. This is the first precipitation of any consequence since the middle of June. The sod is wet down at least 6 inches and last nights rain has added to that. The roads are in very bad shape.

The residence contract was finished today and the contractor is moving out.

Woodward.

A little grading has been done around the buildings this week, and a few plats were threshed. The weather the past two weeks has been so cool, with heavy dews and light showers that t final cleaning up of the seasons work has been much delayed.

Pocket gophers are working as well as a few moles and are being trapped or poisoned.

Note:

There is quoted below the following memorandum from the Chief Clerk of the Department of Agriculture, relative to the regulations to be observed in the manner of flags used in all Departments of the Government:

October 30, 1916.

"For your information there is quoted below the President's Executive Order No. 2990 of May 29, 1916. It is found upon comparison with the General Schedule of supplies for 1917 that the proportions and sizes prescribed by this order are precisely those of the schedule, contractor, N. G. Copeland and Company.

"It is hereby ordered that National Flags and Union Jacks for all departments of the Government, with the exception noted under (a), shall conform to the following proportions:-

Hoist (width) of Flag.....	1
Fly (length) of Flag	1.9
Hoist (width) of Union.....	7/13
Fly (length) of Union.....	.76
Width of each stripe.....	1/13

(a) Exception: The colors carried by troops, and camp colors, shall be the sizes prescribed for the Military Service (Army and Navy).

Limitation of the number of sizes: With the exception of colors under note (a), the sizes of flags manufactured or purchased for the Government Departments will be limited to those with the following hoists:

(1).....	30 feet
(2).....	19 feet (Standard)
(3).....	14.35 feet
(4).....	12.19 feet
(5).....	10 feet
(6).....	8.84 feet
(7).....	5.14 feet
(8).....	5 feet
(9).....	3.52 feet
(10).....	2.90 feet
(11).....	2.37 feet
(12).....	1.31 feet

Note, Continued.

Union Jacks: The size of the Jack shall be the size of the Union of the National Flag with which it is flown.

Position and Size of Stars: The position and size of each star for the Union of the flag shall be as indicated on a plan which will be furnished to the Departments by the Navy Department. From this plan can be determined the location and size of stars for flags of any dimensions. Extra blue-prints of this plan will be furnished upon application to the Navy Department.

Order effective: All national Flags and Union Jacks now on hand or for which contracts have been awarded shall be continued in use until unserviceable, but all those manufactured or purchased for Government use after the date of this order shall conform strictly to the dimensions and proportions herein prescribed."

Respectfully,

(Signed) R. M. Reese,

Chief Clerk.

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WEEKLY STATION REPORTS

OF THE OFFICE OF

DRY LAND AGRICULTURE INVESTIGATIONS

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

NOVEMBER 11, 1916.

Reports for week ending November 4.

Amarillo.

Weather for the week has been fair of the usual Fall sort. Maximum temperature was 78; minimum 39. Hourly wind 4.2 miles. No rain. A total of 3.07 inches of rain is recorded for the month of October-the normal being 1.71 inches.

The final round of soil sampling for the season was completed during the week-26 plats being involved in the series. On some of the plats this season 10-ft. samples were taken to get a line on moisture movement in the lower feet.

The corn on the D. L. A. plats was weighed and shucked during the week. The D. L. A. work will be wound up during the coming week if weather permits.

Colby.

Ideal warm weather has prevailed during the week. There has been no precipitation, but the wheat is beginning to come up. On some of the plats part of it is up. The milo and kafir fodder was weighed and hauled in yesterday. This completes the field work on the plats except the top dressing of the winter wheat plats where that is called for and the cultivation of the fallow plats so as to prevent blowing this winter.

Most of this week was spent preparing for and attending the institute. Many more farmers attended this year than at any time since we have been here, and more interest was shown. Over two-hundred people attended the stock judging demonstration at the station on Thursday.

Weather for October:- Maximum temperature 93 on the third; minimum 13 on the 20th.; average maximum 66 (1915-72), average minimum 33 (1915-37), average hourly wind velocity (2') 8.3 miles (1915-5.6 mil), evaporation 4.545" (1915-4.445"), precipitation .62" (1915-1.10", normal-1.00"). Precipitation January 1 to November 1, 12.10 inches (1915-28.03", normal 16.62 inches).

Garden City, Report for period Oct. 7th. to November 4th.

On the 19th of October a temperature of 18 was recorded and all of the unharvested sorghums were cut the next day Most of the grain on these crops was not matured. Very little of the kafir in this section of the state matured any grain this year.

Wheat is looking good and in many localities is making fair pasture.

Precipitation for October amounted to .67 of an inch.

Huntley.

Total weights were taken on the remaining corn plats during the week. The potato varieties on the dry land were harvested the last of the week. Though the yields of the early varieties were fair the quality was poor. Late varieties produced nothing.

Five more Duroc-Jersey sows and a boar were received this week. The sows were shipped from North Platte, Neb., and the boar from Ann Arbor, Michigan. This completes the breeding herd purchased by the Bureau of Animal Industry for the new livestock work to be started here next season.

Maximum temperature for the week 68; minimum 24. Precipitation none.

Lawton.

The past two weeks have furnished very good growing weather for fall grains. It has been a little windy at times but the temperatures have been very pleasant. No rain has fallen during the two weeks and stock water is a serious item among the farmers in this locality as well as many others. There are certain localities in this county and several other counties in the southwestern part of this state that have had plenty of rain this fall to saturate the subsoil in good shape and those places are reporting good prospects. As a general proposition, however, I think the southwestern part of the state has but little water in the subsoil and a poor prospect for winter pasturage on wheat fields.

Soil samples on the station show moisture to a depth of one foot on the M. C. wheat plats, but the corn plats seem to have considerable more moisture. Land that has grown cotton this year is dry to a depth of 5 feet.

Feed is rather scarce throughout the country and prices on all feed stuffs are advancing rapidly.

It is reported that 5000 horses will be wintered at the Fort Sill Military Reservation this winter. Contracts for barns suitable for housing the horses for the winter will be let within a short time.

North Platte.

Husking corn and weighing of yields on D.L.A. plats has been completed. The average yield of the 22 plats in Field 41 was 7.15 bu. per acre. Maximum yield (on summer tillage) was 17.7 bu. per acre. The minimum yield .9 bushels per acre was secured on Rotation 42. The ave. yield of the two plats following corn was 11.9 bushels per acre.

The ave. yield of the 18 plats in Field 49 was 12.8 bu. per acre. In this field the 5 early fall plowed plats produced an average yield of 15.4 bushels per acre while the 9 plats late fall plowed averaged 11.7 bushels per acre.

About one-half inch of precipitation in the form of snow fell October 24, helping the condition of winter wheat to some extent. The deficiency January 1 to November 1 amounts to 5.94 inches or 34 per cent of the normal annual amount.

Sheridan.

The weather has been fine during this week, the nights clear and cold and the days warm. The ground has been freezing slightly, but has thawed out during the day. An outfit is continuing with the breaking, and another team is disking sod.

All of the contract work has been finished and a little extra cleaning up is being done about the buildings.

The winter wheat seeded on the 19th of September is just coming through the ground, as well as the winter rye.

Tucumcari.

On the night of October 18th the temperature dropped to 33 degrees and although thin ice was formed no plants were even touched by the cold. On the night of the 19th., the temperature dropped to 25 degrees and all vegetation was killed.

All crops have been harvested and most of them have been weighed and threshed. Instead of flailing out beans, etc., this year we threshed them with the machine. By using a 24 inch pulley on the thresher on the cylinder and by lowering the rear end of the machine about a foot we found that practically all beans and peas were threshed out with a very small percentage of breakage. We threshed 3 plats of beans and 17 plats of cowpeas with the machine. It was found necessary to remove only one row of concave teeth.

This week (ending 11/4/16) we have threshed the above cowpeas, 10 plats of millets, 14 plats of sorgos, and 42 plats of milo. In addition all of the corn has been brought in and snapped and 3 plats of millets and several plats of cowpeas for hay have been weighed and brought in. All of these crops were put through the thresher direct from the field. It was found to be unnecessary to head the milo and sorgos as has been the custom on this station in the past. During the next week it is quite likely, if it does not rain or snow before then, that all remaining crops which matured sufficiently to be threshed will be brought in, weighed and threshed.

Cotton has been picked twice so far this season and promises to yield comparatively well. Probably one more picking will have to be made before the season closes.

A good many of the plats to be fall plowed have been plowed.

Taking it as a whole, although all crops except the cotton were more than a month late this year, due to the dry, hot windy weather since frost, everything will be out of the field and the season's work closed more than two weeks before the usual time.

Milo is ranging from about three bushels to nearly forty bushels. Cowpeas as much above the average in weights of hay secured. Cotton will make as much if not more than the average for this station. Kafir and other grain sorghums will be a little short. Kafir will be threshed the coming week. All sorgos appear to be about 75 per cent of normal yield.

Tucumcari, Continued.

This year has been exceedingly dry on this station, and considering this the yields secured are good, though somewhat poor compared with those of last year or the year before last.

Below is the normal rainfall by months and what we have had this year.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mch.	Apr.	May.	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Normal	.29	.75	1.60	1.97	1.56	1.66	2.68	2.76	1.29	1.09
1916	.70	.00	.09	1.55	.56	.63	.98	4.43	.56	.78
(1916 +or-)	+.41	-.75	-.51	-.42	-1.00	-1.03	-1.70	+1.67	- .73	-.31

The above shows that up to November 1916 the precipitation deficit is 4.37 inches.

Note:

Under date of November 28th., 4 rubber cuspidor mats were turned over to the messenger of this office with instructions that he should wrap and address same to the Sheridan Field Station. We are in receipt of advise from Mr. Willey under date of November 6th., stating that he has never received these mats. It is thought that possibly the messenger may have misdirected the package containing the mats and that they have been sent to one of the field stations. If the mats in question have been received by any of the field men, it is requested that they deliver same to Mr. Willey, at the same time notifying this office.

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BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

NOVEMBER 18, 1916.

Reports for week ending Nov. 11.

Garden City.

Owing to the fact that all the laborers on the station were employed at other work; no field work was done on the D. L. A. project. Field work will be resumed next week. The entire week was spent in the office assembling crop data and checking over soil moisture data.

Huntley.

Corn husking was started during the week but had to be discontinued because of a hard wind and snow storm. Eleven plats on the rotations were husked and the weights taken. Grain on the plats husked showed yields ranging from 12 to 45 bushels per acre with an average of nearly 20 bushels. Max. temp. for week 68; minimum 1. Precipitation .18 inch.

Mandan.

Freezing weather has brought most of the field work to a close. One-third of the garden plat and the manuring experiment with vegetables were manured and plowed.

The flowering perennials, strawberries and fruit trees are being mulched. One-half of the fruit trees in the hardiness experiment were given an irrigation.

Tree cuttings are being made for next season's planting.

We are well prepared for winter weather.

Week ending 11/4/16: Max. temp. 65; minimum 31. Precipitation T.
Week ending 11/11/16: Max. temp. 38; minimum 14. " .01 inch.

Scottsbluff.

The corn, fodder and cane were hauled in and weighed during the week. Yields were rather surprising considering the drouth we had through July and the fore part of August. Corn started to tassel when 18 inches high and the average height at harvest was four feet. Practically no suckering took place this year.

Summary of Yields of Corn.

Tillage	No. of Plats	Yield	Average 1912, 13, 14, 15
Fall plowed	12	31.6	21.9
Spring plowed	21	28.8	23.1
Fallow	1	24.0	30.0
Subsoiled	1	23.2	33.5
Listed	1	15.8	20.6

The highest yield was 36.1 from rotation 17, the lowest 15.8 from the listed plat. The average for all plats was 29.1.

Cane yielded at the rate of five tons forage on manured land and 3.3 tons on unmanured land.

Potatoes yielded 187.0 bushels of marketable potatoes per acre, and 37.0 bushels of culls per acre.

TE:

MEMORANDUM NO. 179.

Regarding Attendance at Meetings
by employees of the Department.

In view of the increasing number of requests which the Department is receiving for the detail of employees to attend meetings of various kinds, the following statement is made for the guidance of various bureaus, offices, and divisions of the Department.

1. As a general rule, employees of the Department, other than those stationed permanently or temporarily in localities for the prosecution of official work, will not be authorized to participate in meetings of local importance only.

2. Upon the recommendation of the chiefs of the bureau, office, or division concerned, and in accordance with Paragraph 95 of the Administrative Regulations, the Secretary will decide whether a meeting is of sufficient importance to justify the attendance of an employee. If an employee is detailed to attend the meeting, the Director of Extension in the State in which the meeting is held will be notified of the name of the employee and the subject of his address.

3. As a general rule, the Department, through the State Relations Service, will refer requests for the detail of employees to attend meetings which are of only local importance to the Director of Extension for consideration. He will be requested to use his best judgment as to whether a member of the extension force should be detailed to attend the meetings and to notify the Department of the action taken by him, in order that those who made the requests upon the Department may be advised accordingly.

4. When employees of any bureau, office, or division are detailed to attend any meeting, notice should be sent to the States Relations Service immediately upon the acceptance of the invitiation. The notices should give the name of the speaker and the subject to be discussed, in order that the Director of Extension in the State may be notified.

5. This memorandum does not apply to meetings which are regularly planned in connection with the cooperative agricultural extension work. It does not supersede, but supplements, the provisions of Paragraph 92 of the Administrative Regulations.

(Signed) D. F. Houstan,

Secretary.

NOTE:

MEMORANDUM NO. 180.

Regarding the Regular Army Reserve.

The Act of Congress for making further and more effectual provision for the national defense, approved June 3, 1916, contains the following:

> "Sec. 33. USE OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT:- The President may, subject to such rules and regulations as in his judgment may be necessary, utilize the service of members and employees of all departments of the Government of the United States, without expense to the individual reservist, for keeping in touch with, paying, and mobilizing the Regular Army Reserve, the Enlisted Reserve Corps, and other reserve organizations."

The Regulations of the Regular Army Reserve prescribe in paragraph 65 a method by which the services of members and employees of other Departments of the Government may be utilized for the mobilization of the Regular Army Reserve. That paragraph reads as follows:-

> "65. Under authority conferred by section 33 of the act of June 3, 1916, the services of members and employees of all departments of the Government of the United States may be utilized for the mobilization of the Regular Army Reserve. In addition to the mail notice sent to each reservist under paragraph 60, the officer in charge of reservists' records may request United States Marshals, postmasters, census enumerators, internal-revenue agents, and representatives of the General Land Office, Geological Survey, Forest Service, Weather Bureau, and other Bureaus, to notify all reservists who can be reached by them that mobilization has been directed by the President."

All Regular Army reservists are furnished with a copy of these regulations and know what to do in case of mobilization, even in the absence of formal instructions from Army Headquarters.

The Acting Secretary of War, by letter of October 21, 1916, requests that employees of this Department, stationed throughout the United States, be instructed to cooperate with representatives of the War Department in mobilizing the Regular Army Reserve if at any time in the future their cooperation is requested, or if the fact that mobilization of the Regular Army Reserve has been directed, reaches their notice.

The employees of the Department of Agriculture are therefore instructed, whenever mobilization of the Regular Army Reserve is directed by the President, to notify all reservists of whom they may have knowledge of the fact that mobilization has been ordered, whether the information reaches them through official channels or through newspaper notices.

Members of the Regular Army Reserve are soldiers of the Regular Army. They include men who, having served a portion of their enlistment periods with the colors, have been furloughed to the Reserve for the remainder of their respective enlistment periods. They include also men who have previously served in the Regular Army, received honorable discharges therefrom, and have enlisted voluntarily in the Regular Army Reserve. They include soldiers of all grades authorized by law. They are subject to military law and governed by the Articles of War. They are subject ot call of the President to join the colors whenever, in his judgment, actual or threatened hostilities justify such call.

(Signed) D. F. Houstan,

Secretary.

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WEEKLY STATION REPORTS

OF THE OFFICE OF

DRY LAND AGRICULTURE INVESTIGATIONS

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

NOVEMBER 25, 1916.

REPORTS FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 18, 1916.

Garden City.

The weather for the fore part of the week was unusually cold for this time of year, - one below being recorded on the morning of the 14th. During the latter half of the week there was a gradual rising temperature, with little or no wind movement. A very light snowfall accompanied the cold wave.

The first few inches of soil on most of the winter grain plats is very dry, and the condition of the crop is not very good at present. Some of the growth has turned yellow since the cold spell and the plants seem to be dying.

On account of the continued dry weather during the past season the surface soil has become pulverized very fine, and it would not be surprising should we have trouble from soil blowing next spring. This condition of the soil will to a certain extent wherever possible be overcome by the use of a beet cultivator which leaves the soil in a rough and ridged condition.

Field work for the week consisted of the final round of soil sampling, and the threshing and weighing of sorghum plats. The grain yields secured were of no consequence, but some of the fodder yields were good for such a season as the past one has been.

The following are the acre yields thus far recorded:-

Method of Seed Bed Preparation Experiment.

		Stover	Grain	
	Plat 1.....	1980	160	
	" 2.....	2000	175	
	" 3.....	640	70	
	" 4.....	2240	370	
	" 5.....	2520	420	
	" 6.....	2320	490	
	" 7.....	2560	000	
	" 8.....	1880	220	
	" 9.....	500	000	
	" 10.....	920	105	
	" 11.....	380	000	
	" 12.....	780	000	
	" 13.....	760	000	
	" 14.....	2060	200	
	" 15.....	300	000	
	" 16.....	1600	240	
Dwarf Milo	" 17.....	960	000	
Freeds Sorgo	" 18.....	1600	000	
" "	" 20.....	3040	15 bu. est.	Destroyed by birds.
	" 23.....	5020	235	
	" 24.....	3920	530	
	" 27.....	2640	000	
	" 28.....	2140	000	
	" 31.....	0000	000	
	" 32.....	1020	000	
	M.R.Sumac 44"rows	16640#		
	" " 22" "	13760#		
	" " 8" "	9160#		

Garden City, Yields, continued.

Rot.	405- A.	800#
"	321- C.	800#
"	322- C.	3020#
"	323- B.	4580#
"	" - C.	440#
"	324- C.	1000#
"	331- E.	4400#
"	332- E.	1380#

Huntley.

Because of cold windy weather field work was at a standstill until Thursday when corn husking was resumed. This was completed on the rotations today. The best quality of corn was found on the continuous cropping plats though the yields were not as high as on some of the rotations. There still remains an acre and a half of corn to be husked on Field G which will complete the cropping for the season.

Maximum temperature 47; minimum 13. Precipitation trace.

NOTES.

All field men who have not sent in the current year's records in crop rotation work, soil moisture determinations and climatic data, are requested to do so immediately.

As the past season's work in the field is about closed the weekly letter will be closed with this issue.